

WASHINGTON'S ELOQUENCE.

Brilliant From his Address at the Opening Session of the National Negro Business League in Boston.

Mr. Washington said:

"One object of this organization of business men and women, as I understand it, is to bring together annually those of our race who are engaged in various branches of business, from the humblest to the highest, for the purpose of closer personal acquaintance, of receiving encouragement, inspiration and information from each other. The other object is to originate plans by which local business organizations will be formed in all parts of our country, where such organizations can be made to serve the best interest of the race.

This organization does not overlook the fact that more material possessions are not, and should not be made the chief end of life, but should be used as a means of aiding us not be made the chief end of life, but should be used as a means of aiding us in securing our rightful place as citizens, and of enlarging our opportunities for securing that education and development which enhances our usefulness, and produces that tenderness and goodness of heart which will make us live for the benefit of our fellow men, and for the promotion of our country's highest welfare.

I have faith in the timeliness of this organization. As I have noted the conditions of our people in nearly every part of our country, I have always been encouraged by the fact that almost without exception, whether in the North or in the South, wherever I have seen a black man who was succeeding in his business, who was a taxpayer, and who possessed intelligence and high character, that individuals was treated with the highest respect by the members of the white race. In proportion as we can multiply these examples North and South will our problem be solved. Let every Negro strive to become the most useful and indispensable man in his community. A useless, shiftless, idle class is a menace and a danger to any community. When an individual produces what the world wants, whether it is a product of hand, head or heart, the world does not stop long to inquire what is the color of the skin of the producer.

This meeting will prove a great encouragement to our people in all parts of our country, bringing together as it does the men and women of our race who have been most successful in life. The most humble black boy will be made to feel that what you have done he can do also.

I want to congratulate you upon the fact that 35 years after our freedom, so large a body of representative business men and women of our race have assembled in the city of Boston, a city dear to every Negro in all parts of our land. I want to congratulate you that we find ourselves in the home of Garrison, Phillips, Shaw and George L. Stearns, and a host of others, and I believe that in this sacred soil, guided and encouraged by the memory of those who have lived and died for us, we shall form an organization which will prove potential in the lifting up of the race in all parts of our country. No matter by what conditions we may find ourselves surrounded, may we ever keep in mind that the law which recognizes and rewards merits, no matter under what skin found, is universal and eternal and can no more be nullified than we can stop the life-giving influences of the daily sun."

DR. MOORE'S ADDRESS

Delivered Before a West Virginia Lyceum Evokes Much Applause—A Shooting Scrape and Other Incidents.

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Special—The meeting of White Sulphur Literary Society which was held at the M. E. church on Wednesday the 22nd inst., was perhaps the most noteworthy of the season. Dr. Moore had informed the president by telegram as he thought that he would be here on this occasion, but he had not, as the telegram which was sent in the morning of that day was not delivered; however the Doctor was not hidden very long by the tall and statey mountains after his arrival before the mountain breeze had so scattered the green foliage that his whereabouts was easily seen on the long piazza of White Sulphur Springs Hotel. It was fully 9:30 o'clock when the Vice President Clayton Brown was about to call the house to order when President Robert Barcus in company with Dr. L. B. Moore, dean of the Pedagogical Department of Howard University, Washington, D. C. made their appearance. After short introductory remarks by the president, the usual quotations from standard authors were given. Then followed the reading and adoption of the minutes of the preceding meeting. The audience next listened to a declamation which was well delivered by Mr. W. D. Jones, after which Mrs. Julia Jones read an essay on "School Suffrage" which was very thoughtful and interesting. A mandolin and guitar duet by Messrs. Syphax and Odell was followed by an oration by Mr. Pratt Thomas on "Higher Education," and to say that it was well delivered expresses it mildly for with that earnestness and eloquence which have been as a magnet to mankind's attention, he so aroused his audience that at many times he was interrupted with great applause. As the night was beginning to grow old and literary enthusiasm was about to reach its highest point, the president arose, and after the audience had imitated his example, he with a few brief statements presented Dr. Moore the speaker of the evening

THE SPEAKER INTRODUCED.

to the audience. The discourse with which he favored the well filled house constituted the feature of the evening. In an extremely interesting manner Dr. Moore set forth the advantage point of school training, its refining tendencies and the vantage point it furnishes the young man or woman who is just entering upon life. He talked of the difficulties in the way of the average colored youth in securing a college training and gave encouragement to those attempting to surmount them. He illustrated by incidents some things drawn from his own experience, many difficulties removed and victory achieved persistent, determined effort, backed by indomitable energy. By irresistible eloquence he held the audience spell-bound as he pictured the advantages offered by Howard University and how they might be secured. The Professor spoke strongly of the necessity of higher education for women and deplored the policy pursued in the past concerning the subject. Altogether the talk by its earnestness, eloquence, simplicity and real helpful instructiveness formed by far the event of the literary season. The vote of thanks tendered Prof. Moore but faintly expressed the feelings of those who had listened to him. The evening delightfully spent and long to be remembered closed with prayer and the members of the W. S. L. with pleasant memories

wended their ways homeward with the words of him who had achieved success by hard work still ringing in their ears.

A SHOOTING SCRAPE.

The bartender (white) shot a waiter here Sunday morning just shortly after the dining room doors were opened. It is said that Mr. Harkless who was shot cursed the bartender a night or two prior to the shooting, when talking to a colored man who was employed in the bar room; while in this conversation with the colored employee, the cashier, a white man, overheard the conversation and told the bartender that a Negro cursed him. It is further stated that Harkless went to the bar again on the following Saturday night and he was assaulted by the bartender with a big club. The waiter was supposed to have been settled when Mr. Coontz (bartender) came to his breakfast the next morning he struck Mr. Harkless with a club and as the waiter saw his revolver he began to run and Mr. Coontz in pursuit of him until Mr. Harkless came to the railing of the long porch which was about 15 feet from the ground and jumped over it to the ground. While Mr. Harkless was in attitude of trying to get up to run, leaving his back turned to his pursuer, he (the bartender) began to fire at him—he fired the second time, the bullet striking the right wrist, lodging in the left hand just under the thumb. The news swept the entire dining room like wild fire and within a minute about two hundred and fifty waiters and other colored help were seen strolling up and down the long porch with fire in their eyes, many of whom declared they would not work another moment till the man was under arrest.

It is said that two officers of the law (one of whom was the chief) were sitting at the table with Mr. Coontz just before the shooting and that the chief saw Coontz clubbing the waiter. About a hundred or more of the colored help crowded around the door in which the desperate man entered with the cry of "let's get him" and it was for some thirty or forty minutes before the manager and head waiter could get the men to go in to their work. The passions of the crowd were not curtailed till the manager had stated that he was sorry of the affair and that the man was under arrest and was taken to Lewisburg to the authorities of the law. He also said that he hoped that the bartender would get the fullest extent of the law. There was a great deal of murmuring after this statement to the effect that it was only a sham arrest, and the best thing to do was to get the man and flog him. The sentiment is prevalent that the officers knew of the intent of Mr. Coontz. It is said Coontz told the management that if he did not discharge that Negro, he would kill him the next morning. The whole affair from all the evidence seems to have been premeditated. We are sorry that such was the case but in such contests in which passions of men are more powerful than sober reflection and good judgment, we can but look for lawlessness and disturbance. Every thing is quiet now and no further trouble is expected. Mr. Harkless will leave this afternoon for Clifton Forge where he will be looked after at the hospital. Mr. W. D. Board of Washington, D. C., is here visiting Mr. Burrell on Dry Creek. Mr. Bush left this week for Baltimore, Md. Mr. Walter Lewis will leave this afternoon for his home in Charlottesville, Va. Mr. J. Boom of Washington, D. C., will leave on or about the first of September. He has been very attentive to his duties this season and it is hoped by many of the leading men of the hotel that he will return again next summer. Messrs. Payne and Branch who have been engaged in enlarging pictures have been able to make a very creditable showing indeed, since their large frames have come. They are using two or three different sizes of frames in order that they might be able to put their work in the hands of the poor as well as those who are in good circumstances. The game of base ball that was scheduled for last Monday was not played, on account of the dining room boys failing to show up. Captain Toliver was on the diamond with his men at the appointed hour, giving the spectators some of their excellent work. Prof. L. B. Moore, Ph. D., left here Thursday morning for Washington, D. C., after having spent a few hours in Greenbrier county.

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